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MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1906.

The Case of Bellamy Storer.

Fortunately for the country, it is seldom, indeed, that differences in the administrative family are thrashed out in public, and this makes all the more remarkable the strange and judged from the standpoint of ethics and courtesy—the altogether unwarranted disclosures of private correspondence between himself and the President made public by Bellamy Storer, late Ambassador to Vienna.

It is true that Mr. Storer states that his pamphlet was marked "private," and he really believed that such a document could be sent to a number of Senators and other public men, not to mention passing through the hands of the printers, without finding out the newspapers, then he shows an ignorance of American public life which is another guarantee that President Roosevelt made no mistake in detaching him from the diplomatic service.

Mr. and Mrs. Storer enjoyed for a long time the friendship and confidence of Mr. Roosevelt. When he was a private citizen, and the question of the promotion of Archbishop Ireland came up in conversation, Mr. Roosevelt, then citizen of New York, expressed himself in favor of it. Knowing as he did that Archbishop Ireland had been a noble and useful man for his church, but for his country. When he became Vice President, it is plain that, on being importuned to aid in the elevation of the archbishop, he was more guarded, having in view his official position. When he became President he realized—and he evidently thought the Storsers should realize—that discussions which were entirely proper in Roosevelt the citizen, or Roosevelt the governor, were not even permissible in Roosevelt, President of the United States.

The letters of the Bellamy Storsers themselves, no less than Mr. Roosevelt's letters, make the fact clear that a friendly and personal interest in the advancement of Archbishop Ireland was unduly magnified abroad; that too much ado was made over it, and that the episode was tending to create a false impression at the Vatican. Not once, but many times, Mr. Roosevelt had to voice the plea: "I shall ask you not to quote me to any person in any shape or way in connection with any affair of the Catholic Church."

Mr. Storer says that there was no misuse of the President's letters—no use contrary to the President's own wish; yet we find that Cardinal Rampolla had been furnished with parts of the letters, at least, and the President had to insist upon their return.

President Roosevelt has taken official cognizance of the Storer publication. He might more wisely have concluded, we think, to let the unpleasant episode close itself. It was much of a tempest in a teapot before; now it becomes an affair of national, even international, moment.

The President has answered the ex-ambassador very well; has set himself right before the country, and rather effectually disposed of Mr. Storer; but the episode is not likely to blow over readily.

Such activities as the Ambassador and Mrs. Storer engaged in—with the best of motives, no doubt—must naturally have been frowned upon by the church authorities, as well as President Roosevelt. Mr. Storer's retirement from the diplomatic field came none too soon, though it seemed at the time that he was dealt with more harshly and summarily than his offending actually justified, in view of all the circumstances. The manner of his dismissal, however, is the best proof possible that the President, courageous at all times, had no fear of anything that might follow.

The average man is having the time of his life right now trying to square this prosperity talk with the Christmas stockings.

Subsidies for Mail Steamers.

The New York Chamber of Commerce, at a recent meeting, took issue with Secretary Root's recommendation, which finds an echo in the President's message, that subsidized freight steamers are needed to develop our South American trade. In a report from the committee on foreign commerce, adopted by the Chamber of Commerce, it is stated that there is no lack of regular freight transportation between the United States and South American countries. Sixteen steamers a month, on an average, depart from American ports for Brazilian and River Plata ports, and competition has forced freight rates to a very low level. The committee, in view of these facts, arrives at the conclusion that the question of freight transportation is not involved in the consideration of the development of our South American trade.

The committee adds that mail communication with South America is slow, uncertain, and irregular, and expresses the opinion that "the establishment of such means of communication with the countries of South America should be encouraged by the payment of a liberal postal subsidy." This view is taken also by Secretary Taft in his annual report, in which he urges the establishment of improved mail and passenger service between United States and South American ports. "Fast and regular mails," says the Secretary, "are a necessity of modern commerce, yet it is a matter of record that at times we must send our mails for Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay by way of the ports of Europe and their superior subsidized mail steamships."

The attitude of the New York Chamber of Commerce may be commended to those

members of Congress who are unwilling to go all the way with the advocates of the pending ship-subsidy bill. That measure, should it receive the approval of Congress, would mark a radical departure from our original policy of encouraging domestic industry by authorizing direct payments from the Treasury to a favored industry, instead of the indirect aid now afforded by the imposition of high tariffs. It is not strange that many members of the Lower House should hesitate to commit themselves to so remarkable an extension of the protective principle, and the caution with which they are considering it is significant of a most commendable purpose to arrive, if possible, at a wise and just conclusion respecting it. The objections raised to a general ship-subsidy bill, however, do not apply to postal subsidies, which stand upon a different footing, and may be granted without further extension of the protective policy and without heavy draft upon the Treasury.

In their consideration of the question of trade expansion, our legislators should not lose sight of the necessity of removing some of the artificial obstacles to trade set up by tariff legislation. Useless to subsidize steamship lines if we interpose prohibitive tariff duties between producer and consumer and attempt to restrict the normal interchange of commerce.

Mr. Bryan views with alarm and points with pride impartially, so far as the President's message is concerned.

The Gridiron Club Dinner.

The standpoints from which the dinner of the Gridiron Club last Saturday night can be viewed are numerous and interesting.

Broadly speaking, the occasion was one that could not have been duplicated in any other center in the world, and would be impossible, even in the United States, in any other city than Washington. Conditions abroad are so different that an organization like the Gridiron Club could not even exist, much less could it secure the presence and cooperation of any ruler. Imagine a chorus of English newspaper men singing a humorous ditty to King Edward, or German journalists making any dig at the prominent characteristics of Emperor William. As a matter of fact, if these potentates could come to this country and attend a Gridiron Club dinner, we have no doubt that they, like everybody else, would have a glorious good time. They are human, like the rest of men, but the trouble is that they are hedged about by a formality and ceremonial that is happily lacking in this country. It is a pity that they cannot come over and enjoy the happy experience of being Gridiron guests. They would learn that humor is not synonymous with disrespect, and that the shafts of fun which are leveled at our high officials are not poisoned with malice. They would witness an exhibition of genuine camaraderie, of the real American spirit which is independent and yet loyal, fun-loving yet sensible and kind.

It goes without saying that such dinners are only possible in Washington. In New York or Chicago, a dinner is a great event which boasts the presence of a single Cabinet officer. Last Saturday night the President and Vice President, the Speaker of the House, four ambassadors from foreign countries, four or five Cabinet officers, and other distinguished persons were on the list of guests—so many, in fact, that if they had been invited to speak the dinner would still be in progress. Many of these men had previously attended, and the fact that they were again present as guests indicated their satisfaction. The National Capital alone offers the personnel which so materially aids in the success of a Gridiron dinner.

What are the causes of the club's success? In the first place, its dinners are clean. "Ladies are always present" is one of its maxims. Then, again, no matter what is said or done, there is no personal feeling and, above all, no malice. Another reason is that the club maintains an up-to-date programme, presenting a kaleidoscopic picture of current events as viewed through Gridiron spectacles. Still another reason is that the members "fortunately" discovered, long ago, that noise is not humor and brutality is not wit. In their various stunts they appeal to the intellect, and they have the satisfaction of knowing that the least factor in accomplishing success is the absolute good faith which is kept with the guests in the matter of not reporting the speeches. There is, therefore, a delightful abandon about the after-dinner talks and frequently a freedom of utterance which adds a piquancy to other admirable and valuable features of Washington life. Their original object, the establishing of better relations between the representatives of the press and public men, has long ago been secured. The club does not now have to be maintained for that reason. It has evolved itself into a medium whereby the latest event or issue can be presented from its humorous and, possibly, vulnerable side, the presentation frequently carrying with it a lesson which the wise are quick to learn.

The lame ducks are still disposed to discuss the race problem, but not the one you hear so much about.

To Develop Mediums.

Whenever the subject of spiritualism comes under public discussion it is likely to be made the subject of ridicule, and there will, doubtless, be lots of fun made out of the recent demand by the Society for Psychical Research for an endowment of \$1,000,000 for the development of seven mediums which the society has discovered. But before one laughs it would be well to consider just what has been asked and for what purpose. The reason that spiritualism has become a sort of a standing joke is because of psychic phenomena which are the basis of spiritualism. These "fakes" have reaped a rich harvest from the credulous. But because there has been much fraud in this connection is by no means sufficient reason for putting the whole subject aside as worthless.

The Society for Psychical Research is not a body of "cranks," or men easily deluded, or men hampered by any superstitious predilections in favor of spiritualism. It is, on the contrary, a body of scientific men; men who have held the world's highest positions in the world's best of sciences; men like Prof. William James, of Harvard, and Prof. James H. Hyslop, formerly of Columbia University.

Calmly and as disinterestedly as professors of astronomy would set about examining a new planet, or scientific botanists would analyze a new species of plant, or

scientists of medicine would examine a new germ culture, this Society for Psychical Research has set about examining spiritualism. Prof. Hyslop has been examining the phenomenon for fifteen years, knowing that the phenomena he has witnessed have not been the result of fraud—for scientific accuracy has eliminated all possibility of this—he is bound to admit that there is some psychic force that as yet cannot be accurately described. He and those with him have been forced, as a result of their scientific observation, to admit with Hamlet that "There are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamed of in your philosophy."

If there is anything in spiritualism, ridicule will not kill it; if there are realms of thought into which only those who are called "mediums" can penetrate, it is highly important that these should be investigated by men of science, so that the good may be separated from the ill, and the truth be known. It is this work that the Society for Psychical Research has set out to do, and it is greatly to be desired that the funds necessary to carry on the investigation should be forthcoming.

One now transpires that Senator-elect Davis' name is not Jefferson, but Jeffries. Perhaps that accounts for his pugilistic proclivities, conversational as well as otherwise.

Why should Hall Caine worry about so small a literary light as Shakespeare? At Caine's appearance, Shakespeare at once became the light that failed.

The Kansas City Journal writes to her as "Miss Anna Tarbell." Such is fame!

"We cannot find word to express our approval of the President's remarks on the subject of lynching," says an enthusiastic Georgia contemporary. How would "bully" do?

Berlin has a woman's club to which only deaf members are admitted. Just think of a woman's club where every body can talk at the same time, and still not be obliged to pay the slightest attention to any one else.

The Houston Post gravely asserts that turkey tails for 5 cents a pound in Texas. We shudder to think of the statements the Post might make in a hot political campaign.

Some of those hard-headed Texans seem disposed to look upon Senator Bailey's 17,000-word statement rather in the light of a confession and plea in avoidance.

Uncle Joe Cannon and Senator Aldrich have no reason to complain of the things the President did not say in his message.

If, as has been reported, Mr. Rockefeller lost \$100,000,000 during the past few months, who's got it?

Secretary Loeb evidently wrote that rather carelessly worded section about California and the Japanese.

Count Boni de Castellane addressed the empty Chamber of Deputies with his hands in his pockets. Those are the only pockets in which Boni can get his hands these days.

The Indian's voice is to be preserved in the phonograph. Poor Lo! He always seems to get the timid end of it!

Georgia is loudly demanding protection for Georgia peaches. Is it possible that poetry is to creep into the tariff and ultimately become a syndicate?

With Mr. Stuyvesant Fish talking about the "unmarked rich," Mr. Harriman is striving very hard to look unconcerned.

Senator Morgan ought not to muddy the waters by speaking of "any wild, arrogant man who happened to be President."

It also seems that Mr. Roosevelt rashly stirred up those 12 vice presidents of the Anti-Imperialist League.

After all, it looks like the Sultan of Morocco is only getting a lot of Abdul Hamid's old ultimatum warmed over.

That bouquet handed the Secretary of the Treasury by one L. M. Shaw was composed of real flowers.

The Lynchburg News declares that reformed spelling has been "jarr'd." Got the lid on at last, have they?

We presume, however, that those French deputies cannot prevent Boni putting his speech in the Record.

The problem of what to do with the Pulanians is gradually being superseded by the problem of where to find any more Pulanians to do something with.

Nevertheless, the Christmas cigar isn't any worse than most of the jokes made at its expense.

Now that the government threatens to go after the lumber trust, that concern has commenced to saw wood and say nothing.

The rubber trust is the latest infant industry mentioned, and a bouncing infant it is, too.

If Gen. Grosvenor really refused to congratulate his successor, the general evidently is developing a vein of sarcasm.

PASSING THOUGHTS.

Our sympathies go out to the man of the two heads. In these days of waning liberties and fast-disappearing rights it is sad to note the heavy legal penalties attached to the unauthorized ownership of a couple of industrial ladders. There is danger, unthoughtful, or in the possession of a ladder, or two, or a dozen? We think the real culprit in this grave matter of municipal morals has been overlooked, namely, the lobbyist. He is on guard. Issues that perforce must be settled right there, the next morning in the Bryan hand wagon will be kept for him. Third, Senator is forever tabooed. Take care of yourself, good friend! Thousands of hands are honestly outstretched to you to-day. God be with you on your voyage! God be with you always, and bring you safely back to us.

To Col. Henry Watterson: Good-by; "Marse Henry." Here's a parting health to you and yours. Your good ship will be weighted with the love of your countrymen. The affection of the newspaper world follows you. May the skies of fair South be as bright as your own sunny nature! No mischief will be wrought by the Gray Wolves of the Senate in your absence. The People's Lobby is on guard. Issues that perforce must be settled right there, the next morning in the Bryan hand wagon will be kept for him. Third, Senator is forever tabooed. Take care of yourself, good friend! Thousands of hands are honestly outstretched to you to-day. God be with you on your voyage! God be with you always, and bring you safely back to us.

Some one has invented an instrument by the use of which a Congressman may sit in his committee room and hear everything that is being said on the floor of the House. However, it isn't at all probable that Congress will ever pass a law compelling its use.

Senators were only slightly surprised to note the flag over the Senate chamber flying topside on the other day. In fact, it wouldn't surprise the Senate much to come down every day and see its own picture turned toward the wall.

Mr. Fairbanks is said to be unanimously in favor of the Cullum bill to limit the President's term of service to six years. He would see no objection to a restrictive feature, either.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

SHOPPING.

Now both little wife go shopping
"Tough like slush;
And to do her Christmas shopping
Joins the crush.

In and out she's briskly popping
Through the doors.
One must visit, when one's shopping.
Lots of stores.

Hub behind his brow is mopping
In a daze.
He will visit again go shopping,
So he says.

In his arms the things keep dropping.
Drat the luck!
Hub thinks a wife out shopping
Needs a nuck.

Shopping, popping, never stopping.
See them go.
It is fun, this Christmas shopping,
Don't you know?

Surgery.
"They claim that by means of modern
surgery bad boys may be rendered good."
"Till stick to the old-fashioned kind."
"What's that?"
"Skinning 'em alive."

Nothing but Trouble.
When lovely woman gets her rights,
Discards her hated thoughts,
She'll have the time to sit up nights
And think about her wrongs.

The Christmas Crush.
"You're been crying."
"Well, what would you do if you were
jammed?"
"Oh, I s'pose I'd jell."

Perish the Thought.
"Lower your voice!" hissed the basso.
"Some one approaches."
But the soprano, peeping from her boudoir
window, only shrieked the louder.
Lower her voice, indeed!
And have him climb up on it?
Horror!

THE INNOCENT BYSTANDER.

THE "USEFUL" GIFT.
With doubt I wait for Christmas Day,
I think with shivers of the tree
Lest from its boughs may idly away
Some "sensible" affair for me—
Some bulky ring for my lady;
The highest honor of my life;
A saw, or hammer, I may see—
I want no "useful" Christmas gift.

I think of it with much dismay;
Each Christmas there is sure to be
Some "useful" thing in the array
To put a blight upon my glee;
My ancient maiden aunt, she
Sends books that preach the praise of
Or any fool thing C. O. D.

Landis for a Diplomatic Post.
Now that the joke about the Hon. Fred
Landis being a candidate for Doorkeeper
of the next House of Representatives
appears to have about run its course,
the discussion as to the future of that
distinguished young Hoosier statesman,
who is limping around in the company of
Gen. Grosvenor, Maj. Lacey, and other
lame ducks of Congress, has taken a more
serious turn. His standing is an excellent
one at the White House that it is suggested
the President would not require much
urging to tender to Mr. Landis an im-
portant post in the diplomatic service.

SAFE.
"If I were sure the candy sold in that
shop was pure and free from bacteria,
I should be glad to get you a couple of
pounds," says the scientific swain. "But
in these days of reckless adulterations I
feel that I cannot take too many precau-
tions to preserve your health and beauty."

The fair young thing, who has a normal
candy appetite, coos a word of apprecia-
tion of his thoughtfulness. Next they ap-
proach a place where a soda fountain con-
tains the glass globe.

"You are fond of soda and ice cream,
are you not?" he asks.
"I just love it!"
"If it weren't so often filled with dan-
gerous germs I would be happy to get you
some."

This time she does not coo apprecia-
tively, and they continue their homeward
walk in silence. When he is leaving her,
he busily tries to get her to kiss her good-
bye.

"You may," she says, to his surprise.
"You can be sure there won't be any
germs in the kiss, either, for you haven't
given me time to acquire any."

He sleeps but little that night, because
of his mental effort to determine whether
she is thoughtful or sarcastic.

DARK OUTLOOK.
"Mamma," asks the little boy, "how can
Santa Claus get into our flat, when we
haven't any chimney—nothing but a
steam radiator?"

"He will probably slip in by the base-
ment door, darling."

"It's all off then," says the lad, "that
after dinner, and generally speaking, the
janitor will put him out of business be-
fore he can unpack his sack."

WILBUR NESBIT.

Why We Had It.
From the New York World.

In a public school in the Bronx a
principal asked for answers to the
question, "Why does the President ap-
point a day for general thanksgiving?"
Here are some of the answers actually
turned in:

"Because Columbus discovered
America."
"Because the President always gets a
turkey."
"Because we have a holiday the day
after."

"Because the President's party won
in the election."
"Because on this day the Puritans
had their first dinner."

There was only one boy in the school
who answered "to give thanks for all
the benefits of the past year."

Important Question.
From the Youth's Companion.

He was an unpeppery, seedy, out-
of-the-elbows person, and the doctor,
when he prescribed for him, knew bet-
ter than to expect a fee.

"For the inflamed eyes," said the
benevolent physician, "dissolve a
small boracic acid as you can put on
a ten-cent piece in half a glass of
water."

"Thank you, doctor," murmured the
patient, turning away. A moment later,
however, the office door was opened
and the patient sidled in.

"Say, doc," said he, with an ingrat-
ing smile, "where do I get the ten-
cent piece?"

Nothing Alarming in It.
From the London Daily News.

The assertion of the race alarmists that
the Japanese are pouring into this country
at the rate of a thousand per month
sounds very imposing if you can't stop to
think. But take pencil and paper, set
down that a thousand a month means
12,000 a year, and that it will take till
the end of the century to make a million of
them, and you may conclude that it is not
necessary to lie awake over the scare.

Reassuring.
From the Indianapolis Star.

There is reassurance in the fact that
Mr. Bryan does not commend all of the
President's message.

His Act Officially Approved.
From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Secretary of the Treasury seems to
have a high opinion of Leslie M. Shaw in
his official capacity.

Soaring Ambition.
From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

The leader of the black-belt spell-
er has gone to the President's head and he
now wants to be public school superin-
tendent in California.

As to the Senate's Leader.
At this time of the session of Congress
look out for the story of the change of
leadership of the Senate from the Hon.
Nelson Wilmam Aldrich to the Hon.
Eugene Hale. It has been the journalistic
fashion for the past two or three years
to start that story on its rounds during
the first week of Congress. Near the close
of the session, however, the fashion
changes, and then the enterprising jour-
nalists begin to tell the old tale of the
masterful leadership of Mr. Aldrich. The
fact is that Senator Hale does not want
the leadership of the Senate. In point of
experience and ability he is splendidly
equipped for it, but he has temperamental
qualities which cause him to recoil from
certain duties of leadership when a crisis
is reached. It is then that Senator Aldrich
steps to the front and proceeds to do
business. The railroad rate legislation of
the last session is a case in point. The
Rhode Island statesman's hand was not
shown in that rumpus until the crisis was
reached. Then he seized the reins and
steered his party out of its difficulties.
Even including the President's consent to
a programme which the Executive had
not favored at the inception of the fight.

Talking of a Southerner.
Judge Alton B. Parker's advocacy nearly
a year ago of a Southerner for the Demo-
cratic Presidential nomination in 1908
seems to be just taking vigorous hold on
the minds of the statesmen of that faith
in Congress. While almost without ex-
ception they are agreed that in the present
posture of affairs William Jennings Bry-
an appears to be their destined leader
again, still they argue that the situation
may so change within the next year as to
make the nomination of a Southerner ad-
visable. In the discussion of this prob-
ability the name of Senator Culberson,
of Texas, is heard more often than that of
any other possible available man. He was
mentioned among others soon after Judge
Parker's speech started the talk of a
Southerner for the Democratic leadership,
but at that time his distinguished col-
league, Senator Bailey, was also thought
to be excellent material. Texas politics is
now such a ferment over the charges
brought against Senator Bailey by At-
torney General Davidson that it is generally
agreed among Democrats in Washington
that Mr. Bailey is out of consideration for
the highest honor of the country. This
circumstance has added strength to the
Presidential prospects of Mr. Culberson.
Already the most influential newspaper in
Texas has strongly advocated the nomi-
nation of Mr. Culberson, declaring that he
can get the Lone Star delegation to the
next national convention without opposi-
tion. The Senator himself refuses, with
characteristic modesty and diffidence, to
discuss the subject.

As Between Hearst and Hughes He
Preferred to Keep His Money.
From Collier's Weekly.

There is a story, now so widely circu-
lated at the New York Republican head-
quarters as to be no longer a secret, con-
cerning Mr. Hearst's attitude in the
recent campaign. During the Odell regime
the latter was a heavy contributor to the
campaign fund. During the recent cam-
paign a representative of the States com-
mittee went to Mr. Hearst's Wall street
residence for a similar donation. Mr. Hearst
received him with truculence and treated
him with scorn. He would give no money
to the Republican cause, so long as Mr.
Roosevelt was the head of it. When re-
minded that the defeat of Mr. Hughes
would mean the triumph of a reckless
and dangerous radicalism, Mr. Hearst
averred that he did not care for the con-
trast to get what he wanted in his own
way. The exact connotation of "his own
way" may be interpreted from certain
passages of testimony in the Armstrong
insurance investigation.

Don't be the optimist in correct that
legislators and judges who come to the
surface of a swirling whirlpool of violence
are more susceptible to the inducements
which Mr. Hearst offers for "his own
way" than men of character and sub-
stance and of tried capacity as reformers,
who promise formally to do certain
definite things. During the last cam-
paign Mr. Hearst gave large sums of
money to the definite promises of bank-
ing investigation and Brooklyn Rapid
Transit reform made by Mr. Hughes than
the general threats made by Mr. Hearst.

The Student and the Professor.
From the Boston Herald.

The scholarly William E. Byerly,
professor of mathematics at Harvard,
was once asked by a student how to
develop a retentive memory. The pro-
fessor answered that ordinary mental
exercise was sufficient to secure a good
memory, whereas the student asked if he
could not get the mental capacity of
his instructor. Prof. Byerly agreed,
and the student asked him to listen to
and remember several varied items for
a test. He began:

"Six pounds of sugar, a pint of sour
milk, three onions, half a gallon of
molasses, and two raw eggs."

"Um," said the professor.

"Two green apples, twenty-six peas,
one and a half cucumbers, and
four mince pies."

"Um," said the professor.

"A package of starch, sixty-seven
canned yeast, and the skins of seven
bananas. Got that down?"

"Yes," answered Dr. Byerly.

"How does it taste?" asked
the student.

The Diplomat.
From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"You say you want to marry my
daughter?"

"Yes, sir."

"Of course you are aware that she
has many faults?"

"No, sir."

"Her faults are countless. What do
you say to that?"

"I've only to say, sir, that if her
faults were as many as the sands of
the sea they would be compensated for
by a single one of her possessions."

"Ah, you mean her money."

"I mean her frank and amiable
father."

"She